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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/824,482	04/15/2004	Riichiro Takahashi	04329.2821-01	6514
22852	7590	01/26/2006	EXAMINER	
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER LLP 901 NEW YORK AVENUE, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20001-4413			SCHILLING, RICHARD L	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1752	

DATE MAILED: 01/26/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/824,482

Applicant(s)

TAKAHASHI ET AL.

Examiner

Richard L. Schilling

Art Unit

1752

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 April 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 16-21 and 38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 16,20 and 38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 17-19 and 21 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 April 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 10/144,025.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4-15-04;3-28-05</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Art Unit: 1752

1. Claims 16, 20 and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being fully met by Hayakawa et al. '275, Hayakawa et al. '944 or Maeda et al. Hayakawa et al. '275 (see particularly col. 8, lines 50-69; col. 9, line 69-col.10, line 20; Ex. 7, 15), Hayakawa et al. '944 (see particularly col. 2, lines 39-51; col. 6, lines 59-74; Ex. 1,4,5,7) and Maeda et al. (see particularly col. 7, lines 40-65; col. 14, lines 58-65; Ex. 1,3,7) disclose methods of exposing photoresist forming materials containing silver halide, treating the exposed materials with solutions containing reducing agents, i.e. developers for exposed silver halide, to polymerize and then developing a resist by removing unpolymerized areas with washing water. The washing water would also clean the material or substrate. Also, Maeda et al. cleans with dampening water in example 7; Hayakawa et al. '944 and '275 wash with water prior to removal of unpolymerized areas and Hayakawa et al. '275 cleans with fixing solution after resist development in example 15.

2. Claims 17-19 and 21 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

3. The prior art cited by applicants has been considered. Dumers et al. is cited of interest as disclosing reducing solution treatment of exposed silver halide materials prior to resist developement. Ito et al. '531 is cited of interest as disclosing air flow agitation of solutions on resist materials.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Richard L. Schilling at telephone number 571-272-1335.

RICHARD L. SCHILLING
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 1150-1752

